

ANNOUNCEMENT

Epilepsy, neurobiology, and religious creativity

First announcement

The relationship between neurological disorders and religious visionary inspiration has been increasingly under discussion in scientific circles during the last decades. Many famous artists, writers and mystics have suffered from neurological diseases. For epilepsy, it is well known that great personalities like Kierkegaard and Dostojevsky were affected, but it has also been discussed regarding Saint Birgitta.

The year 2003 marks the 700th anniversary of the birth of Saint Birgitta and the memory of this event will therefore be commemorated in many places around the world in 2003; the town of Vadstena where the first Birgittine monastery was founded, will be the centre of the celebrations.

The conference on "Epilepsy, neurobiology and religious creativity" is planned as a part of the Birgitta 2003 celebrations. The Swedish Chapter of the International League Against Epilepsy, Linköping University and The National Committee for Birgitta's Jubilee 2003 and the Neurocongress Foundation support the conference.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee it is a great pleasure to welcome you to this congress, which we hope will be an interesting meeting-place for epileptologists, other neuroscientists, theologians, philosophers, and literary historians. The conference will be held in English with international speakers from neurobiology, arts, literature, and theology.

Vadstena, located at the lake of Vättern, is a picturesque medieval town, 50 km from Linköping and 220 km from Stockholm. Flight or train provides transportation to Linköping and then further transfer to Vadstena is arranged for the conference delegates.

Dates: March 20–22, 2003

Organizing committee Lars Bergquist, Kjell Kallenberg, Anne Marie Landtblom, Gunnel Magnusson, Karin Schuback, and Birgitta Söderfeldt (president).

Scientific programme

The main themes are:

The temporal lobe and its function
Expressions of religious revelations
Great men and women with epilepsy
Epilepsy in literature and art
Neural correlates of religious experience
Dreams and visions

Main speakers among others: Jerome Engel Jr., Peter Wolf, Majgull Axelsson, and Nina Azari. Participation is open to all persons interested in the congress. Congress fee 2800 SEK, includes participation, meals and social program. For further information and to receive second announcement, mail epilepsy2003@liu.se or send the counterfoil to Ms Gunnel Magnusson, Department of Neurology, INR, Linköping University, S-581 85 Linköping, Sweden. Homepage: <http://infoweb.unit.liu.se/hu/inr/conference2003/presentation>



Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

I plan to present a poster Yes ☐ No ☐